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FOREIGN ANIMAL  
DISEASES REPORT

SEP 15



JULY-AUGUST 1976

CURRENT RECORDS

## HOG CHOLERA CONFIRMED IN MASSACHUSETTS



On July 17, 1976, as a result of the intensive surveillance program for hog cholera, a case was confirmed in a New England State in a herd of 624 swine at Holden, Worcester County, Massachusetts, by Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa.

Specimens were submitted from a herd held under State quarantine and under strict surveillance since mid-April. Immediate eradication action was taken by the Northern Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization.

The States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and three southern counties of New Hampshire are under State and Federal quarantines.

## FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN MAN (AN ABSTRACT)

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is considered a classic zoonotic infection; however, many references in the medical literature of the 19th and 20th centuries indicate that many cases have occurred in man. Recently, only isolated infections have occurred in man even during extensive FMD outbreaks. This low morbidity prompted several researchers to investigate serum of people involved in foci of outbreaks. In some cases, positive serological reactions were revealed in the absences of symptoms.

The possibility of an asymptomatic infection as well as the morbidity of FMD in man was studied in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR) over a period between 1956 and 1970. During this period about 200,000 people cared for sick animals with only 21 of these people having the disease. This gave a 0.01 percent morbidity index.

A study of FMD morbidity in people in the USSR as well as serological testing of people who worked in the foci of FMD indicated that in spite of the possibility for virus transmission, man seldom develops FMD infection. Only a few mild cases of morbidity in people were observed even during severe FMD outbreaks. ( Author: Korotzeh, A. S., et al; Publication: Journal of Microbiology, Epidemiology, and Immunobiology (Moscow) Vol. 2, pp. 132-135, 1974).

## HOG CHOLERA OUTBREAK ON EASTERN SEABOARD

On February 24, 1976, hog cholera was confirmed in Gloucester County, New Jersey, and subsequently on February 28, 1976, in Rhode Island; on March 1, 1976, in Massachusetts; and on April 28, 1976, in New Hampshire (Foreign Animal Diseases Report April-May 1976).

Prior to these outbreaks, the most recent outbreak of hog cholera in the United States was on July 4, 1975, in Hereford, Texas. Prior to that outbreak, the most recent outbreaks of hog cholera were on May 4, 1974, in Puerto Rico; and on February 7, 1974, in Granada County, Mississippi. During the Hereford, Texas outbreak, 3,484 swine in the States of Texas and Oklahoma were depopulated with indemnity payments totaling \$355,248.

The last confirmed case of hog cholera to occur in New Jersey was on March 22, 1976. As of July 1, 1976, a total of 21 herds consisting of slightly over 15,741 animals were destroyed in New Jersey due to infection with or exposure to hog cholera. On May 4, 1976, the quarantines on Camden and Gloucester Counties were released and no areas remained under quarantine in New Jersey.

As of July 1, 1976, the last positive case to be confirmed in Massachusetts was on April 2, 1976. Twenty-four swine herds consisting of slightly over 1,800 swine in Massachusetts had been destroyed because of infection with or exposure to hog cholera.

The only positive herd in Rhode Island was confirmed on February 28, 1976. This infected herd as well as two exposed herds consisted of slightly over 1,600 swine.

The only positive herd in New Hampshire consisted of 729 swine in Hillsborough County and was confirmed on April 28, 1976.

One herd of 14 swine was also depopulated because of exposure to hog cholera.

On June 4, 1976, the quarantine on Hillsborough County, New Hampshire was released. At that time, no areas in the United States were under quarantine because of hog cholera.

As of July 1, 1976, 51 herds consisting of slightly over 19,990 swine in New Jersey and New England had been depopulated with indemnity to the owners of these herds slightly exceeding \$2,447,800.

Cost for the two task forces operations of the Northern Regional Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Organization was slightly over \$3,864,186. This does not include the additional surveillance cost over the rest of the United States nor the contributions of the States involved.

The source of these two outbreaks has not been definitely established. Some circumstantial evidence indicates that outdated hog cholera vaccine may have been used by some herd owners in the New England area. Other evidence shows that food waste had been fed to many of the positive herds. This, along with some swine movement, may have been a factor in the epidemiology of these two outbreaks.



Epidemiological evidence indicates the disease may have been in Massachusetts for up to 18 months prior to detection. Normal movement of swine for sale played an important role in the spread of hog cholera in the New England area and may have accounted for the outbreak in New Jersey.

Intensive surveillance will be maintained for some months in the affected areas of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Rhode Island, with inspections, serum neutralization testing and tissue sampling being conducted. Surveillance over the entire Nation will be maintained.

#### THE UNITED STATES SEATS FIRST PERMANENT DELEGATE AT OIE 44TH GENERAL SESSION

On May 5, 1975, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution calling for full U.S. Government participation in the Office of International Epizootics (OIE) and President Gerald Ford signed the accession document on June 9, 1975. U.S. membership became official with the deposit of the Instrument of Accession with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs on July 29, 1975.

After a quarter century as an observer, the United States has joined OIE as a full member and in May 1976, seated its first Permanent Delegate at the organizations 44th General Session. Dr. John M. Hejl, Deputy Administrator, Veterinary Services (VS), who has been named the U.S. Permanent Delegate, led a five-man team of VS experts to the May 17-22 meetings.

Subjects for discussion at the meetings included the control of rabies and tick-borne diseases such as anaplasmosis, piroplasmosis, and theileriosis. Another major topic was how to improve methods to control swine vesicular disease. Papers were also presented detailing the current veterinary practices and control methods now being applied by various member countries.

OIE was formed in 1924, as an agency of the League of Nations. The importance of the organizations activities have assured its growth since the departure of the League of Nations. A major reason for the formation of OIE was the sudden appearance in 1920 of rinderpest in Belgium, following transshipment through the port of Antwerp of Zebu cattle bound from India to Brazil. The possibility that the disease might be transmitted in this manner had not been previously foreseen. Today OIE receives information from many widely separated countries and reports monthly on the presence of rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, bovine pleuropneumonia, anthrax, rabies, sheep pox, glanders, dourine, swine fever, lumpy skin, bluetongue, African horse sickness, African swine fever, Teschen, swine vesicular disease, and Newcastle disease.

The main functions of OIE are to coordinate research on some livestock diseases and to collect information about and report on animal disease epidemics and on control measures. It also studies international draft agreements about animal sanitary measures and provides to participating countries the means by which they can supervise the pact's enforcement.

OIE is the sole international organization totally committed to animal disease control and uniform procedures to prevent transmission of animal diseases from country to country. In view of our livestock and poultry industries, it is

heartening to know that this country is now a full-time participating member of this important international organization.

## AWARENESS OF EMERGENCY DISEASES

One of the most critical areas of concern to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, Emergency Programs (USDA, APHIS, VS, EP), is that of maintaining employee-industry-citizenry awareness of the possibility of an invasion of an exotic organism which could wreak havoc with our nations livestock population.

The increase in international traffic justifies the need for increased awareness. In 1975, United States Customs cleared 252 million people, 75 million cars, 353 thousand aircraft, 123 thousand vessels, and examined over 77 million pieces of baggage.

The foregoing statistics demonstrate the magnitude of potential sources of foreign diseases that threaten our 240 million cattle, sheep, swine, goats, etc., and the millions of domestic fowl.

A many faceted approach is taken to make people aware of the danger. EP conducts schools and seminars on exotic diseases. A Foreign Animal Diseases Report is published and distributed several times annually. Foreign Animal Disease seminars are held at veterinary colleges. Practitioners, veterinary students, and industry are invited to these seminars. Lecturers are scientists who have special experience, both outside and within APHIS. EP personnel make presentations at many of the APHIS training sessions.

Our first line of awareness are specialists stationed in Central America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, monitoring disease situations, the second line would be inspectors at ports of entry, the third would be APHIS employees stationed throughout the United States.

EP maintains its awareness with the philosophy of "not if, but when" an exotic disease will strike the nations livestock.

## REGIONAL EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE ERADICATION ORGANIZATION (READEO) CONCEPT RECOGNIZED

On May 25, 1976, a Superior Service Award was given by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to a team of veterinarians for leadership, managerial excellence, and organizational ability in developing and implementing the READEO concept for combating emergency outbreaks of animal diseases.

This concept is based on the development of five regional organizations within each Veterinary Services region of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service that have the necessary training, competence, and administrative support to move rapidly into efficient operation and eradicate an emergency outbreak of an emergency animal disease. These READEO's are ready to go into action within a few hours anywhere in the country. Since the READEO's have been established, three of them have been activated to handle eight disease outbreaks. Five of these activations were because of hog cholera outbreaks and three for outbreaks of exotic Newcastle disease. Each of these outbreaks was rapidly eliminated.

The concept is based on the premise that pretrained and preselected personnel are effective and capable of dealing with devastating foreign animal diseases that have the potential to decimate our Nation's animal resources.

#### SWITZERLAND FOUND FREE OF SWINE VESICULAR DISEASE

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has restored Switzerland to the list of countries considered free of swine vesicular disease (SVD), thus permitting less restrictive regulations on imports of cured and dried pork products from Switzerland.

Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) found Switzerland free of SVD after reviewing that country's veterinary service records and making on-site investigations. Switzerland had lost SVD-free status in January 1974, after an outbreak of the highly contagious swine disease.

Under APHIS regulations, cured and dried pork and pork products from Switzerland may now be imported into the United States without the requirement for special heat treatment at designated U.S. processing plants. These products however, must still be processed to destroy the viruses of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and other destructive livestock infections.

Restrictions include the requirements that the Swiss processing plants exporting pork and pork products must be approved by USDA, and slaughtering plants must certify that they receive no swine or pork and pork products from SVD-infected countries. Imports from Switzerland of live swine and fresh, chilled or frozen meats are prohibited because of the presence of FMD and hog cholera in that country.

#### AUSTRALIA FREE OF FOWL PLAGUE

Australian Bureau of Animal Health has notified the Office of International Epizootics that the country is free of fowl plague.

After depopulation on two infected poultry farms, and one duck farm, (which indicated rising titers on serology) and extensive surveillance, including sera testing, the Bureau declared the disease eradicated and the country free of fowl plague effective February 26, 1976.

#### WORLD DISEASE REPORTS\*

Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks
<u>Foot-and-Mouth Disease</u>					
Argentina	July 1975 - January 1976	742	Ivory Coast	March-April June	2 3
Belgium	December 16-31 February 1976	1** 1		September-November	8



Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks
Foot-and-Mouth Disease (cont.)					
Bolivia	August	1*	Jordan	July	255**
	September	1		October-November	31**
Botswana	November	3	Kenya	July-August	26
Brazil	July 12-August 22	576		November 1975 -	
	September 20-Nov. 28	676		February 1976	37
	December 13, 1975 -		Kuwait	April 1976	9**
	April 2, 1976	1,986	Malawi	September 1975 -	
Burundi	November	4		January 1976	3
	February-March 1976	12	Niger	January-Feb. 1976	1
Cameroon	January-May	53	Nigeria	October-December	1
	December 1975 -		Paraguay	August 23-Sept. 19	5**
	February 1976	23		September 20-Oct. 3	2**
Colombia	August-September	39		September-December	26
	November 1975 -			Jan. 3-31, 1976	14
	March 1976	117		March 6 -	
Curacao	March 16-31, 1976	2		April 30, 1976	4
Ecuador	September 1-15	12**	Peru	August 16-Sept. 15	11**
	September 16-30	14		September 16-Oct. 15	12
	Feb. 1-15, 1976	1		January-March 1976	4
Egypt	Feb.-May 15, 1976	7	Rhodesia	August-November	6
Germany	April 16-30, 1976	1		March 1976	1
Ghana	August	2	Senegal	December 15-31	4
	November-December	1	Spain	April	7
Hong Kong	September-November	29		September-December	6
	Jan.-April, 1976	42	Sri Lanka	June-July	116
Hungary	September 16-30	37	Sudan	September-December	11
	December 1-15	26	Syria	May	8
India	May-November	1,402		October-November	2
	January-March 1976	174	Tanzania	May-December	90
Iran	September-October	14	Tchad	July-August	2
	December 1975 -			November 1975 -	
	April 1976	21		January 1976	4
Iraq	September-October	19	Thailand	April-December	63**
	December 1975 -		Tunisia	August-September	3
	February 15, 1976	286	Turkey	September-December	132
	March 1-15, 1976	3		Jan.-April 1976	103
	April 1-15, 1976	6	Uruguay	July-December	201
Israel	April	1	U.S.S.R.	August-September	8
	June	1		November 1975 -	
Italy	Nov. 16-Dec. 31	6		February 1976	59
	May 1-15, 1976	5	Venezuela	May-September	29

#### African Swine Fever

Malawi	November 1975 -		South		
	March 1976	7	Africa	November	1
Portugal	September 1975 -		Spain	August 16-Nov. 15	148
	April 1976	515		December 1975 -	
				April 15, 1976	226



Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks
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Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia

Cameroon	January	1	Kuwait	December 1975 -	
	March	1		April 1976	576**
	May	1	Liberia	June	1
	January-Feb. 1976	1		December 1975 -	
Dahomey	January-June	21		March 1976	2
Ghana	August	16	Niger	May 1975 -	
	October 1975 -			February 1976	2
	February 1976	31	Nigeria	October-December	4
India	June-July	3	South	August	1
Ivory	March-June	8	Africa	November	1
Coast	September-November	8	Sudan	September-December	11
Kenya	August	1	Tchad	November 1975 -	
				January 1976	7

Lumpy Skin Disease

Burundi	November	1	South	November 1975 -	
	February-March 1976	1	Africa	March 1976	26
Kenya	December 1975 -		Swaziland	July	2
	February 1976	2	Tanzania	December	5
Malagasy	November 1975 -				
	February 1976	34			

Sheep Pox

Egypt	January 1976	1**	Morocco	June-September	137
Greece	September-December	1		November 1975 -	
India	May-November	187		February 1976	277
Iran	September-October	30	South		
	December 1975 -		Africa	June-December	1
	April 1976	89	Sudan	November-December	8
Iraq	September 1-15	4**	Syria	May	2**
	October	239**		October-November	103
	December	770		February 1976	107**
	Jan.-Feb. 15, 1976	632**	Tunisia	August-September	9
	March 1-15, 1976	56**		December 1975 -	
	April 1976	160**		March 1976	10
Israel	April 1975 -		Turkey	June-July	125
	March 1976	35		October 1975 -	
Israel (control territory)				March 1976	1,207
	April 1975 -		U.S.S.R.	September	8
	March 1976	84		November 1975 -	
Jordan	October-November	8**		January 1976	25
	January 1976	3		Feb. 16-29, 1976	2
Kenya	September-October	5			
	January-February, 1976	1			
Kuwait	Oct. 1975-April 1976	878**			

Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks	Country	Date 1975	New Outbreaks
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Rinderpest

Cameroon	May	2	Ivory		
India	May-November	55	Coast	April	1

Teschen Disease

Austria	December	1	Malagasy	November 1975 - February 1976	26
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Swine Vesicular Disease

Austria	March 16-31, 1976	5	Great Britain	September 1-15	1
France	October 1-15	1	United Kingdom	March 16-31, 1976	1

Dourine

South	November	3
Africa	January-March 1976	11

African Horse Sickness

South	August 1975 -		Sudan	November-December	3
Africa	March 1976	5	Swaziland	March 1976	3

( \*Extracted from International Office of Epizootics, Monthly Circular, numbers 346, 347, 349, 350, 351, 352, and 353).

(\*\*Cases).